Keeping in Touch

News and notes from
the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches

June 1993

UFMCC's contingent begins to march on Washington.

Photo by Mr. William Tom

March on Washington Inspires The World

Reflections by
Rev. Kittredge Cherry

I have never been prouder to be part of UFMCC than at the March on Washington for Lesbian, Gay and Bi Equal Rights and Liberation.

Every event we sponsored succeeded in communicating Christ's love to a people that has been denied it: the lesbian and gay community. Every step we made carried us closer to the dream of justice for all that God planted in our hearts. Every breath I took filled me with a deeper faith in myself, in the lesbian and gay rights movement, in UFMCC and in God. The April 25 March was a monumental spiritual and political triumph.

As Rev. Troy Perry, UFMCC founder and moderator, said many times throughout the weekend's events, "This is the defining moment in history for us." Lesbians and gay men saw ourselves in a new way: 1 million strong, in all our diversity, proud to claim our identity and our rights, mostly with joy, but also with justifiable anger. We tested our wings and felt our power, and that experience will continue to transform and build lesbian and gay community globally in ways that we are just beginning to imagine.

The rest of the world also saw the lesbian and gay community anew. The mainstream news media covered the March and related events extensively and with remarkable fairness, balancing images of doctors and drag queens. The religious right ranted against us, this time noting our organizational ability. For the first time in history, a U.S. president sent a letter of support to a march for lesbian and gay rights.

UFMCC saw itself in a new way, too. The Fellowship offices poured its resources and organizational might into the March at a level that is unsurpassed, except by UFMCC's own General Conferences. We received back far more than we gave, generating goodwill in the lesbian and gay community, gaining massive

(see March, page 6)

June 15 Deadline for Conference Discount

Registrations must be postmarked on or before June 15 to receive the advance discount for General Conference XVI.

More than 800 people have registered for General Conference XVI, which will be July 18-25 in Phoenix, AZ.

The advance registration is running well ahead of the number registered in advance for the last General Conference in 1991.

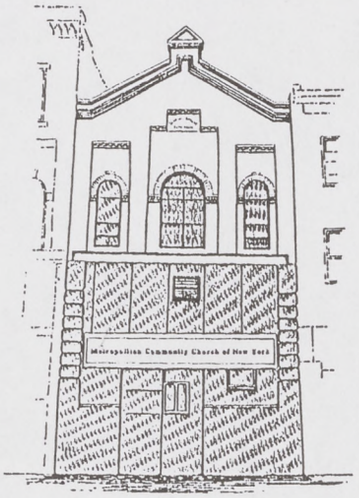
For more conference information, see page 3. ❐

Huge Gift Enables Church to Buy Building

An anonymous cash donation of $203,150 is making it possible for MCC New York to purchase its first building.

"It's truly an answer to prayer. To me, it's like a miracle because it has changed everything for us," said Rev. Pat Bumgardner, pastor.

She described the donor as "a very eccentric human being" with deep concern about hunger and homelessness. He has attended worship at MCC-NY only once in the seven years that Rev. Bumgardner has known him, but he made previous donations to MCC-NY's food pantry and homeless shelter, as well as other lesbian and gay organizations. Every month 2,300 to 2,700 men, women and children are assisted by the food pantry, including 400 people with AIDS.



MCC-NY's new building

Rev. Bumgardner recalls waking up frustrated on the morning of March 23. "I had pulled every string I knew how to pull in our effort to buy a church building, and it still wasn't coming together. That morning I prayed, 'God, you have to do something. I've had it!' That's all I said and I left the house," she remembered.

After she arrived at church, she received a call from the donor objecting to MCC-NY's plan to finance its new building with church bonds.

"We don't have a choice," Rev. Bumgardner told him. "Come hell or high water, we're going to proceed on this building."

He responded by asking her to meet him at the bank. When she got there, he began pulling envelope after envelope of cash out of his clothing as a gift to MCC-NY. Several tellers were needed to count it, since there were no bills larger than $100. The total came to $203,150.

"I immediately called the loan officer we had worked with and said we wanted our loan reconsidered," she said. "It went through pretty quickly after that."

MCC-NY signed a contract in late April for a three-story church building in midtown Manhattan at 446 W. 36th St., and the church hopes for a closing date of mid-July. It has worship space for 200.

Rev. Bumgardner said the new building will further MCC-NY's ministries by allowing the church to consolidate its activities in one identifiable location and providing additional space for the food pantry and homeless shelter.

"To us it feels like God looking upon us and honoring us in our struggle to be faithful," she said. "Really more important than the money is coming away with renewed faith." ❐

MCC Joins North Carolina Council of Churches

The North Carolina Council of Churches voted by an overwhelming margin May 5 to grant full membership to UFMCC's Gulf Lower Atlantic District.

The Council voted 54-15, with seven abstaining, to admit UFMCC. Although UFMCC has 280 churches in 45 states and 16 countries, the North Carolina council is only the second state council of churches in which UFMCC has full membership. UFMCC has been a member of the Hawaii Council of Churches since 1970.

UFMCC's six-state Gulf Lower Atlantic District applied for membership in the North Carolina council on July 7, 1992.

"I was very close to tears when I saw all those people standing and affirming our denomination. It was magnificent," said Rev. Jay Neely, Gulf Lower Atlantic District Coordinator. "The vote to accept UFMCC as a full member is especially notable in the state of North Carolina, which is the home of Jesse Helms, one of the more homophobic of our U.S. Senators." He noted that UFMCC has seven churches in North Carolina.

"Membership in the North Carolina council has important ramifications for UFMCC's relationship with the National Council of Churches, which voted to deny observer status to UFMCC in 1992", said Rev. Kittredge Cherry, UFMCC national ecumenical officer. "Compared to the NCC, local and state church councils are much closer to the minds and ministry of the grassroots. They know that Metropolitan Community Churches are out on the front lines meeting human needs and bringing God's love to all people, regardless of sexual orientation."

The North Carolina Council is based in Raleigh, where St. John's MCC and its pastor, Rev. Wayne Lindsay, played a key role in the membership application process. ❐

Double Issue Planned

A double issue of *Keeping in Touch* will be published for August/September.

The expanded super-issue will include extensive reporting and photography from General Conference XVI.

Deadline for submissions for the double issue will be extended to July 25, the last day of General Conference.

Keeping in Touch will resume its normal deadline, which is the 15th of the month prior to publication, with the October issue. Materials for the October issue must be received by September 15. ❐

THE UNIVERSAL FELLOWSHIP OF METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCHES

Keeping in Touch is a monthly publication of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. We are a church of the lesbian and gay community, open to all. Our mission is to call people to new life through the liberating gospel of Jesus Christ, confront injustice through Christian social action, and create a community of healing and reconciliation.

Keeping in Touch may be freely copied for distribution in UFMCC. Portions may be reprinted in UFMCC church publications, with attribution. For other distribution, please request permission. Subscriptions are free upon request.

Send address changes, news and ideas to: *Keeping in Touch*, 5300 Santa Monica Blvd, #304, Los Angeles, CA 90029; (213) 464-5100.

Editorial Board:
Rev. Elder Troy D. Perry, Moderator
Mr. Ravi Verma, Director of Administration
Rev. Kittredge Cherry, Editor

Deadline for each issue: 15th of previous month.
Ms. Nancy Fackrell, Typesetting

General Conference Update

Make Travel Plans Now

With over 800 early registrations and over 150 rooms already reserved at The Pointe, all indications point to a very heavily attended Conference. Mr. Jim Voltz, president of Vacation Corporation, the official travel agency for General Conference, offers the following advice:

If you haven't made your room reservation we recommend you do it soon. Just send in your Hotel Reservation card from your packet with a credit card number for a guaranteed room. (No deduction will be made from your card unless you do not show up or do not cancel before your arrival date.)

Airline reservations are also beginning to come in fast so if you plan on arriving on Saturday or Sunday in Phoenix and leaving on the last Sunday, the most inexpensive seats will be sold first. Don't forget to call the official conference travel agent, Vacation Corporation, so that UFMCC can earn credits to get free staff and speaker airline tickets.

Vacation Corporation has contracts with both American and Southwest Airlines and both now offer 5% off the lowest airfare available. Southwest also has a companion-flies-free fare which does not offer the 5% off and has a very limited number of seats available on each flight, so call and book your tickets early. Call today: (800) 966-7174 or (213) 933-4111. ❐

Christus Omnibus!

CHRISTUS OMNIBUS!
is
the new quarterly magazine for gay and lesbian Christians.

▼

What the Bible really says about homosexuality ▼ reconciling ministries ▼ interviews ▼ book reviews ▼ spirituality.

plus

a national resource directory listing hundreds of churches which welcome gay and lesbian members.

"... in its own reconciling way, revolutionary."
BAY AREA REPORTER

___ 1 Year (4 Issues) $15.00 ___ 2 Years (8 Issues) $25.00
___ 3 Years (12 Issues) $35.00 ___ Sample Copy (#1) $5.00

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

Make check or money order payable to **CHRISTUS OMNIBUS!** and send to:
CHRISTUS OMNIBUS! 146 E. Duarte Road, Suite 213, Arcadia, CA 91006
CHRISTUS OMNIBUS! is a non-profit organization. (818) 287-5744

Women's Events Set

Women's events at General Conference XVI begin even before the conference itself starts.

The General Meeting of the Women's Secretariat will be from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, July 17 at the conference site in Phoenix, AZ.

The women gathered will hear reports from and offer feedback to Women's Secretariat leaders, formally review and approve the Standard Operating Procedures for the secretariat, and elect executive committee members.

The deadline for nominations for the executive committee has been extended; they must be postmarked by June 10. For more information on nominations, persons may call Rev. Coni Staff, chair of the interim steering committee, at (415) 456-0652.

The Women's Secretariat will again sponsor the Women's Wall, a display of pictures of women from all over UFMCC. Women are urged to contact their district liaison to the Women's Secretariat to give them pictures for display as soon as possible.

Rev. Spahr to Speak

Rev. Jane Spahr, national lesbian educator and evangelist for the Presbyterian Church (USA), has been added to the schedule of General Conference XVI in Phoenix, AZ in July.

Because of recent developments in the Presbyterian Church, Rev. Spahr has been added to the program of the Ecumenical Breakfast on Friday, July 23. She will join Mr. James Bell, executive director of Interfaith Impact, as a guest speaker at the Ecumenical Breakfast. She will also appear at other conference events.

A dynamic speaker, Rev. Spahr made national headlines in recent months when the highest court of the Presbyterian Church refused to allow her to accept a position at Downtown United Presbyterian Church in Rochester, NY, because she is a self-affirming, practicing lesbian. The Rochester Church responded by hiring her to travel the nation to advocate for lesbian and gay rights in the church. Rev. Spahr's life partner is Rev. Coni Staff, interim chair of the UFMCC Women's Secretariat.

Mr. Bell was executive director of Inter-Faith Ministries of Wichita in 1980 when First MCC of Kansas joined. He experienced the dramatic impact of MCC's membership: First Inter-Faith Ministries lost half its budget and a third of its members, dropping to 30 members and an $88,000 budget. Within five years Interfaith Ministries had grown to 100 members and a $500,000 budget, larger than before, thanks to the faithfulness demonstrated by opening to UFMCC. ❐

Minutes Mailed

Clergy and lay delegates are reminded that minutes of the March General Council and Board of Elders meetings have been mailed to local churches.

The standard policy for distribution requires that the Fellowship offices mail one copy to each lay and clergy delegate. However, because of the continuing need to reduce expenses, only one copy was mailed to each church.

Churches are asked to assist in this matter by informing clergy and lay delegates that the materials have been received and are available for review. ❐

Rev. Troy Perry and his lover, Phillip DeBlieck, addressed the crowd of 1 million from the main stage.

Photo by Mr. William Tom

Faces of the March

Rev. Jesse Jackson, left, and Rev. Troy Perry met backstage at the March.

Photo by Rev. Kittredge Cherry

Mr. Frank Zerilli, right, was one of the UFMCC staffers coordinating Wedding registrations. Also pictured is volunteer Jerry Weller of Portland, OR.

Photo by Rev. Kittredge Cherry

Rev. Larry Uhrig, left, and Ms. Roberta Achtenberg enjoyed UFMCC's reception for political leaders.

Photo by Mr. William Tom

Rev. Troy Perry addressed 10,000 people at The Wedding.
Photo by Mr. William Tom

Long-term couples introduced at The Wedding were, from left, Ms. Bobby Smith, Ms. Kay Thompson, Mr. Jim Busby and Mr. Dusty Keyes.
Photo by Rev. Kittredge Cherry

Couples chalked their names on the street at The Wedding.
Photo by Rev. Kittredge Cherry

Celebrating communion on the morning of the March were, from left, Elder Larry Rodriguez, Rev. Elder Freda Smith, and Rev. Elder Willem Hein. Assisting is Rev. Candace Shultis.
Photo by Rev. Kittredge Cherry

March

(continued from page 1)

international publicity, adding at least 1,000 new names to our mailing list, and raising more than enough money to cover our expenses.

The magic of being at the March began as soon as I boarded the plane to Washington, DC. "The whole plane's queer!" exulted a fellow passenger. On the plane, on the subway, on the streets of DC, strangers greeted each other. Or, more accurately, we did not feel like strangers.

Other people from the Fellowship offices who travelled to Washington to staff UFMCC events were Rev. Perry, Rev. Don Eastman, Mr. Ravi Verma, Rev. Steve Pieters, Mr. Frank Zerilli and Mr. Nathan Meckley. The powerful witness of UFMCC at the March was made possible by the teamwork of these people, along with Elders Freda Smith, Larry Rodriguez, and Willem Hein; MCC Washington's congregation, staff and pastor, Rev. Larry Uhrig; Dr. Chip Wells, UFMCC's onsite coordinator and official representative to the March planning committee; and countless volunteers.

UFMCC's first event was among the biggest of the 300 March-related events: The Wedding, a demonstration for lesbian, gay and bisexual rights and a celebration of our love, on Saturday morning, April 24. One of the most satisfying parts of my work in the months leading up to the March was handling advance publicity for The Wedding, especially the nationwide search to find the lesbian and gay couple who had been together longest. Words cannot describe the joy I felt in publicizing and meeting the couples whose relationships mirror and, hopefully, foreshadow my own 18-year lesbian love affair with my spouse, Audrey Lockwood. The nation's longest-term couples were among the first to arrive at the Wedding: Ms. Kay Thompson and Bobby Smith, both 69, of Tampa, FL, together 33 years, and Mr. Dusty Keyes, 66, and Mr. Jim Busby, 71, of Arlington, VA, together 46 years.

We blocked off a six-lane street, which was quickly jammed with a crowd of about 10,000. More than 2,200 couples, some (both male and female) in matching tuxes, registered to receive commemorative certificates from UFMCC. The civil rights speeches and commitment ceremony proceeded beautifully, exactly as planned. Many people described it as UFMCC at its finest.

Something unplanned caught me off guard with its sweet tenderness. Thousands of couples spontaneously chalked their names on the street, encircled by hearts. Until that moment, I had forgotten feeling excluded from this childhood ritual as a lesbian girl. *Square Peg* magazine deemed it "best grafitti at the March." Afterward, at least 1,000 people attended The Wedding Reception at Tracks, complete with a multi-tiered wedding cake.

On Saturday evening UFMCC sponsored a reception in honor of U.S. political leaders at the architectural gem that is MCC Washington, DC's new building. MCC-DC also served as UFMCC's office-away-from-home during the March. I visited the building for the first time on this trip, and was impressed by its graceful splendor and mood of openness created by its many-windowed design. The building and its congregation provided an elegant atmosphere for the reception. Special guests included Ms. Roberta Achtenberg, who made history as the first open lesbian appointed to the U.S. cabinet when President Clinton named her assistant secretary-designate for Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity; Senator Allen Spear, president of the Minnesota State Senate; and Mr. Ralph Payne, aide to U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein.

U.S. presidential advisor David Mixner speaks at UFMCC's communion service before The March.

Photo by Mr. William Tom

Sunday morning began with a spirited UFMCC communion service in front of the Lincoln Memorial. "I look out today and think, we truly are the rainbow tribe. We are the minority that comes in all colors," Rev. Perry preached to the congregation of 1,000. "We will not be stopped as we take our rightful place as children of America and children of God."

Other speakers included U.S. presidential aide David Mixner and the only other major denominational heads at the March, Rev. William Schultz of the Unitarian Universalist Association and Rev. Paul Sherry of the United Church of Christ, who said, "We want to share with you, yes, your anger and your pain, but also your shimmering expectation of God's future. We commit ourselves to walk the walk with you and talk the talk with you until justice flows down like a mighty river." Music was provided by Ms. Marsha Stevens, Rev. Delores Berry and HeartSong.

After worship, the crowd proceeded to an area in the hot sun near the Washington Monument where religious groups, number 44 in the marching order, waited to join the March. At 10 minutes past noon, a voice called from the morning stage: "We are marching! One million queers take over DC!" The crowd began to dance as music played, "You gotta have fa-a-aith in the power of lo-o-ove." This was just one of countless times during the weekend when the language of faith was used by secular and political leaders. Religious leaders also used political language, focusing especially on fighting the religious right and lifting the ban on lesbians and gays in the U.S. military.

The gathering of religious groups was like a huge party where people milled and mingled for four hours before our turn to march. The last marchers did not stride past the White House until 6 p.m. The march was incredibly peaceful, with police reporting only four arrests from the huge crowd. Controversy continues over the attendance, estimated at 1 million by organizers, but only 300,000 by the U.S. Park Service.

(see March, page 8)

Around The Fellowship

Praises

May God continue to bless UFMCC members around the world in June as many communities celebrate the anniversary of the **Stonewall Rebellion** with lesbian and gay pride festivities.

Lamb of God MCC, Anchorage, AK, dedicated a new worship space on Easter Sunday. "For the first time in 19-plus years, our church may worship at any time of the day or night it chooses," said **Rev. James Morgan**, pastor.

"Celebrate Our Freedom" is the theme of the rally featuring **Rev. Troy Perry**, UFMCC founder and moderator, in Ft. Lauderdale, FL, on May 29.

Rev. Jim Mitulski, pastor of **MCC San Francisco**, CA, appeared on the U.S. nationally televised "Oprah Winfrey Show" in May to discuss the ex-gay movement.

Westminster/John Knox Press has approached **Rev. Kittredge Cherry**, editor of *Keeping in Touch* , about co-editing a book of lesbian and gay worship services and celebrations with Rev. Zal Sherwood, a gay Episcopal priest and author. ❐

Transitions

Rev. George Allen, transfer clergy, was elected pastor of **Exodus MCC**, Abilene, TX.

Rev. Charlene Buck has joined the pastoral staff at **Maranatha Fellowship MCC**, Houston, TX.

Rev. Hal Hasse has become senior pastor of **South Suburban Fellowship MCC**, Park Forest, IL.

Ms. Tootie Preston has become pastoral leader at **Faith Eternal MCC**, Springfield, IL.

Rev. Marilyn Marr has become senior pastor of **JESUS MCC**, Indianapolis, IN.

Rev. Ron Jesser resigned as pastor of **Christ Chapel MCC**, Santa Ana, CA, as of April 25. **Mr. Ken Kerr** has been named interim pastor.

Prayers

Mr. Mitch Samuels died of complications related to AIDS on April 25. He was the spouse of Rev. Ron Jesser, who recently resigned as pastor of **Christ Chapel MCC**, Santa Ana, CA.

Jeffrey, son of **Rev. Nancy Brown**, pastor of **MCC Hickory**, NC, died in late April of AIDS-related complications. He was 6 years old.

Rev. Lisa Dawn McCabe of **MCC Huntsville**, AL, requests prayers following the death of her guide dog, **Kerry**, on April 8 after a long illness. She has a new guide dog named **Gizmo**.

Prayers are requested for **Vision of Hope MCC**, Lancaster, PA, which has met with strong local opposition to its proposed purchase of a new building. **Rev. Mary Merriman** is pastor. ❐

Correction

UFMCC programmers met together for at least one day every March from 1985-89. The April issue of *Keeping in Touch* incorrectly reported that the programmers held their first day-long meeting this year. ❐

Samaritan Has New Home

Samaritan College has announced its new address, effective May 12.

The mailing address is P.O. Box 688, Lewisville, TX 75067. The office is located at 250 N. Mill Street, #6, Lewisville, TX 75057. The office phone is (214) 221-7749 and fax is (214) 221-7345.

The Samaritan office is staffed by Rev. Sandra Robinson, president, and Ms. Sheryl McFerren, registrar. ❐

Top 20 Tithes - April 1993

1.	Cathedral of Hope MCC, Dallas, TX	US$	5,617.64
2.	Sunshine Cathedral MCC, Ft. Lauderdale, FL		3,234.33
3.	MCC Washington, Washington, DC		2,601.20
4.	MCC of the Resurrection, Houston, TX		2,384.13
5.	MCC Toronto, Ontario, Canada	CAN$	1,760.08
6.	MCC Los Angeles, Culver City, CA		1,324.33
7.	MCC of Greater Kansas Cty, Kansas City, MO		1,291.49
8.	MCC of the Rockies, Denver, CO		1,235.07
9.	Harvest MCC, Denton, TX		1,211.66
10.	St. Luke's MCC, Jacksonville, FL		1,202.85
11.	Church of the Trinity MCC, Sarasota, FL		1,140.91
12.	MCC San Francisco, San Francisco, CA		1,099.52
13.	MCC Tampa, Tampa, FL		1,072.64
14.	River City MCC, Sacramento, CA		958.26
15.	Church of Our Savior MCC, Boca Raton, FL		948.50
16.	MCC New York, New York City, NY		908.77
17.	MCC New Haven, New Haven, CT		705.94
18.	Maranatha Fellowship MCC, Houston, TX		701.35
19.	First MCC of Atlanta, Atlanta, GA		675.53
20.	MCC Key West, Key West, FL		650.80

{These figures reflect the 10 percent of each local church's monthly income that is reported to Fellowship headquarters.}

Top 20 Per Capita - April 1993

1.	Open Arms MCC, Rochester, NY	US$	33.61
2.	Maranatha Fellowship MCC, Houston, TX		29.47
3.	MCC/Lower Mainland, Mapleridge, BC	CAN$	27.76
4.	Calvary MCC, Redwood City, CA		25.72
5.	Ke Anuenue MCC, Honolulu, HI		25.10
6.	MCC of Greater Hayward, San Lorenzo, CA		24.76
7.	Harvest MCC, Denton, TX		22.15
8.	MCC Living Spring, Eureka Springs, AR		21.78
9.	MCC Ottawa, Ontario, Canada	CAN$	21.47
10.	Christ the Redeemer MCC, Evanston, IL		21.44
11.	MCC of Living Faith, St. Louis, MO		20.67
12.	Vieux Carre' MCC, New Orleans, LA		20.62
13.	Church With a Vision MCC, Longview, TX		20.49
14.	MCC New Haven, New Haven, CT		19.24
15.	MCC Albuquerque, Albuquerque, NM		19.24
16.	New Life MCC, Charlotte, NC		19.18
17.	New Life MCC, Berkeley, CA		18.53
18.	MCC Johnson County, Lenexa, KS		17.66
19.	Christ the Liberator MCC, New Brunswick, NJ		17.45
20.	MCC of Greater Tulsa, Tulsa, OK		17.15

{These figures reflect average individual weekly offerings to the local church.}

UFMCC To Attend World Youth Conference

UFMCC will send a representative to the Ecumenical Global Gathering of Youth and Students in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil July 10-27.

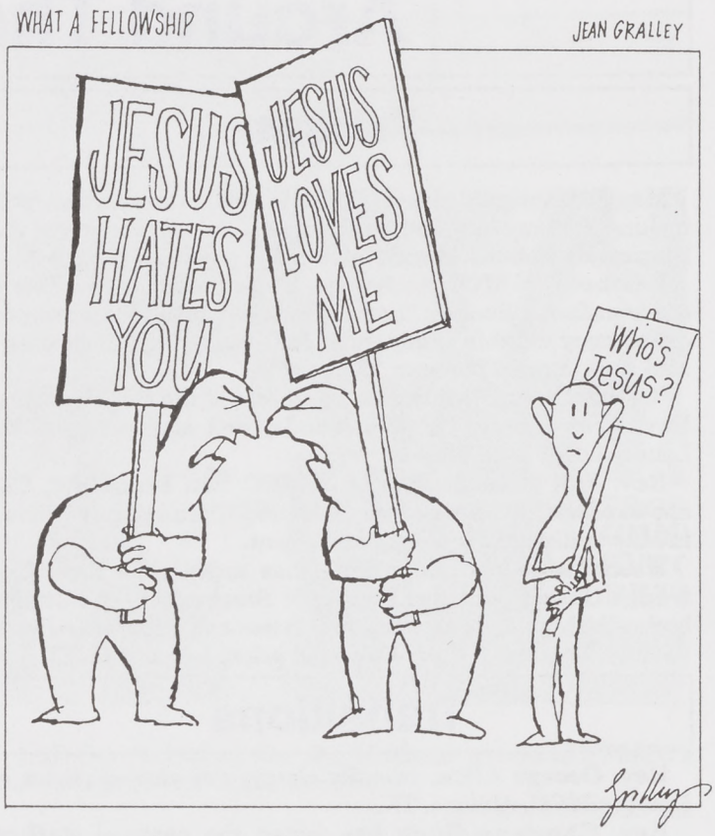
Rev. Isabel Amorim of Brasilia, UFMCC National Ecumenical Liaison of Brazil, will be among the 600 people from all over the world attending the conference.

The gathering is a joint ecumenical endeavor of the World Council of Churches, International Movement of Catholic Students, International Young Catholic Students, World Alliance of YMCAs, World YWCA and World Student Christian Federation.

The theme of the gathering is "Where there is no vision, the people perish. We gather for life." Its purpose is to provide a unique place for young people to forge the links of a worldwide fellowship of prayer, sharing, commitment and responsibility; and to encourage the sharing of know-how, challenges and problems so that all may profit from the experiences of young people coming from different realities.

Rev. Amorim signed up to participate in workshops on rights of people and democracy; economics, society and alternative models; racism; and search for unity in a fragmented world. She also registered for programs on health, the presence of Africa in Brazil, culture and church.

The gathering is not the first of its kind. The first Christian World Youth Conference was held in Amsterdam in 1939. Subsequent conferences occurred in 1947 and 1952. However, this gathering is the first in which Catholic bodies are deeply involved. ❐



March

(continued from page 6)

While we waited to march, friends from my former church, MCC San Francisco, came up and teased me for carrying a cellular phone, a high-tech item that UFMCC had rented for the first time at the March. "Now you've really gone L.A.!" they laughed.

Then Rev. Perry pulled me aside to remind me that I was to bring my camera and accompany him when he spoke from the main stage. "Stick to me like a tick to a bear!" he ordered.

My most memorable moment came when I stepped onto the main stage with Rev. Perry and his lover, Phillip DeBlieck; Rev. Sherry, and his wife, Mary; and Mr. Bill Tom, UFMCC's other photograghер. The crowd stretched toward the sun as far as I could see, engulfing the Washington Monument. Tears came to my eyes.

I felt like I was also standing with my gay male friends who had died of AIDS and my earliest lesbian friends who had been imprisoned in mental hospitals to be "cured" of homosexuality.

So many of us once lived in hiding. So many of us once believed we were sinners. So many of us once thought "I'm the only one in the world." The shame and pain of that isolation melted and were replaced by this new image: Marching together, a million strong.

That evening a standing-room-only crowd at MCC-DC gave voice to our joy with a hymn that runs through my mind as I remember the March: "We're marching to Zion, beautiful, beautiful Zion; we're marching upward to Zion, the beautiful city of God." ❐

Classifieds

TO PLACE YOUR AD

Cost is $15 for the first 25 words or less. Additional words are 70 cents per word. Numbers and abbreviations count as words. All classifieds must be prepaid in U.S. funds. All copy for *Keeping in Touch* Classified Advertising is subject to the approval of the Editorial Board. Appearance of advertising does not imply, nor does it constitute, endorsement by UFMCC. Mail ads to: Keeping in Touch Classifieds, 5300 Santa Monica Blvd., #304, Los Angeles, CA 90029.

BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS

"Families Remembered: Pastoral Support for Friends and Families Living With HIV/AIDS" by Rev. Louis F. Kavar, UFMCC Field Director of Global Outreach, is available for $10.95 ($8.25 each for six or more copies) from Chi Rho Press, P.O. Box 7864, Gaithersburg, MD 20898. (301) 670-1859.

MAIL ORDER

Live Opera Performances on Audio/Video cassette. Incredible selection since 1930's-worldwide. Huge free computerized catalog. Live Opera, Box 3141, Steinway Station, L.I.C., NY 11103.

OBITUARY

Mr. Harry "Pat" Lynch of Mahakilo, HI, deacon at MCC Portland, OR from 1978-91, died May 1 of AIDS-related complications. He was 50. He is survived by three sons and his spouse, Steve Campbell, lay delegate of MCC Hawaii.

ORGANIZATIONS

Prodigy Computer Network for MCCers and Friends. All welcome, laity encouraged. Only cost - Prodigy subscription. Sue Read - Prodigy #RMMS05A/phone 612-822-2470.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

We are praying for our Pastor. Do you know who it is? Established, dynamic congregation in deep South seeks part-time pastor. Send resume/cover letter to MCC Montgomery, P.O. Box 603, Montgomery, AL 36101.

MCC Nashville is looking for a part-time pastor. If you are interested in a church on the move in Music City, USA, write for an information packet. MCCN, c/o Charles Jones, PO Box 121582, Nashville, TN 37212.

MCC of the Pines is seeking a part-time pastor. Please send resume to Pastoral Search Committee, 3350 Ulmerton Rd., Suite 14, Clearwater, FL 34622.